

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/731,554

Examiner

Padmavathi v. Baskar

Applicant(s)

WALKER ET AL.

Art Unit

1645

## -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/2/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 21-23 and have been renumbered as 1-3 respectively.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date 9/13/07.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

**Allowance**

1. The amendments filed on 8/2/07 is acknowledged and entered.

**Status of claims**

2. Claims 1-20 have been canceled.  
Claims 21-23 are pending and are under examination.

**Examiner's amendment**

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Melissa L. Sistrunk (9/13/07). The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 21 (Currently Amended) A method of inhibiting ~~or preventing~~ *Ehrlichia canis* infection in a subject comprising the steps of: identifying a subject prior to exposure or suspected of being exposed to or infected with *Ehrlichia canis*; and administering a composition comprising the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:46 in an amount effective to inhibit *Ehrlichia canis* infection.

**Claim Rejections 35 USC 112, first and second paragraph withdrawn**

4. In view of amendment to claim 2-23, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph and second paragraph are withdrawn

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102 withdrawn**

5. In view of amendment to claim 21-23, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohashi et al 1998 (see IDS # C24 3/15/04, Infec.Immun, 66; 132-139) in view of Ohashi et al 1998 (see IDS # C23, 3/15/04, J.Clin. Microbiol, 2671-2680) is withdrawn as the prior art does not teach or suggest a method of inhibiting *Ehrlichia canis* infection in a subject comprising the steps of: identifying a subject prior to exposure or suspected of being exposed to or infected with *Ehrlichia canis*; and administering a composition comprising the polypeptide, 291 amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:46.

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**Conclusion**

6. Claims 21-23 are allowed and have been renumbered as 1-3 respectively.

7. Papers related to this application may be submitted to Group 1600, AU 1645 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be transmitted via the PTO Fax Center, which receives transmissions 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. The transmission of such papers by facsimile must conform to the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30, November 15, 1989. The Right Fax number is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PMR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PMR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PMR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Padma Baskar Ph.D., whose telephone number is ((571) 272-0853. A message may be left on the Examiner's voice mail system. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 6.30 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. except First Friday of each bi-week. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Siew can be reached on (571) 272-0787. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1600.



Padma Baskar Ph.D.



JEFFREY SIEW  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

**CLEAN COPY OF ALLOWED CLAIMS**

1  
21. A method of inhibiting *Ehrlichia canis* infection in a subject comprising the steps of:  
identifying a subject prior to exposure or suspected of being exposed to or infected with  
*Ehrlichia canis*; and administering a composition comprising the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:46  
in an amount effective to inhibit *Ehrlichia canis* infection.

2  
22. The method of claim 21, wherein said SEQ ID NO:46 is encoded by the polynucleotide  
of SEQ ID NO:45.

3  
23. The method of claim 21, wherein said polypeptide is dispersed in a pharmaceutically  
acceptable carrier.